
Solar and National Conservation Areas Discussed [SWIP

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Solar and National Conservation Areas Discussed

By Dave Maxwell

Lincoln County Commission Chairman Paul Mathews and Commissioner Ronda Hornbeck led discussions during a public meeting about the proposed National Conservation Area in Garden and Coal Valley's and areas for solar development in Lincoln County. It appears to be separate, Hornbeck said, both matters really are related as both come from the office of Senator Harry Reid.

The public meeting was the first of at least two planned meetings seeking verbal public comment for the draft proposal. Another meeting in Caliente, but a date and time has not been selected yet. County Commissioners have not made any decisions yet, because they are still reviewing the proposals in late February. Some of the concepts in the draft legislation proposal for potential Lincoln County parcels.

The BLM would, within 60 days of passage of the bill, lease two areas for commercial solar energy development in Lincoln County.

The two potential areas for lease are:

Delamar Valley – approximately 2,850 acres

Dry Lake Valley – approximately 19,980 acres

The BLM would attach a requirement to the lease that holders diligently develop the leased parcels.